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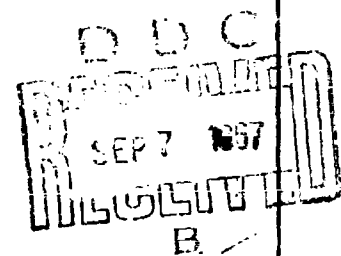
ARMY MAP SERVICE

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TECHNICAL REPORT No. 7 (Rev.)

# DIRECT AND INVERSE SOLUTIONS OF GEODESICS

Emanuel M. Sodano  
and  
Thelma A. Robinson



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# ABSTRACT

This Technical Report supersedes TR No. 7 entitled: INVERSE COMPUTATION FOR LONG LINES: A NON-ITERATIVE METHOD BASED ON THE TRUE GEODESIC, which is out of print. It contains the material of the original publication of 1950, and in addition, formulas pertaining to long lines, derived through the years at AMS.

The solutions of the Direct and Inverse Geodetic Problem are presented in forms which are adaptable to desk calculator and to electronic computer.

The maximum errors in the solutions due to the omission of higher order terms have been determined and are presented in tables in the Appendix. These tables will enable the user of the solutions to decide whether the accuracy requirements can be obtained with or without the higher order terms. These higher order terms have been derived and are presented herein.

## DIRECT AND INVERSE SOLUTIONS OF GEODESICS

### SECTION I. GENERAL

1. Purpose and Scope. The purpose of this report is to present in a single publication the various forms of the Direct and Inverse Solutions of Geodesics which have been solved by the Army Map Service. This report supersedes AMS Technical Report No. 7.

### SECTION II. INTRODUCTION

In Section III of this report a procedure is given for a rigorous and rapid non-iterative inverse solution of very long geodesics. This procedure, which is in a convenient form for computation by means of desk calculators, was presented by Mr. Emanuel M. Sodano at the XIth General Assembly of the International Association of Geodesy and Geophysics in Toronto, Canada in 1957. The results represent the gradual extension and accumulated improvements of the original Army Map Service Technical Report No. 7.

This modification contains a more stable formula for azimuths and an alternative formula for very short lines. More general and accurate formulae for both long and short lines are given herein than are contained in Technical Report No. 7. The complete theoretical derivation starting with a rigorous modification of Helmert's<sup>(1)</sup> classical formulas are given. The final non-iterative formulas have been extended through terms equivalent to the second, fourth and sixth powers of the eccentricity of the spheroid, and therefore, may be shortened according to the required accuracy.

The solution, which requires no special purpose tables, is accurate to at least the tenth decimal place of radians for the azimuths and the arc distance. If the final formulas are shortened to the second and fourth powers of the eccentricity respectively, the results are accurate to seven and nine decimal places of radians respectively, even for distances circumscribing the earth.

In Section IV the formulas for the solution of the Inverse Geodetic Problem have been adapted to electronic computers. These formulas were derived from the basic formulas of Section III. A solution of the Direct Geodetic problem is given in Section V. The formulas are adapted to electronic computers.

### SECTION III.

#### A RIGOROUS NON-ITERATIVE PROCEDURE FOR RAPID INVERSE SOLUTION OF VERY LONG GEODESICS <sup>(3)</sup>

##### 2. Preliminary Modification of Helmert's Iterative Solution

$$e = \text{eccentricity of the spheroid} = \sqrt{\frac{a_0^2 - b_0^2}{a_0^2}}$$

$$e' = \text{second eccentricity} = \sqrt{\frac{a_0^2 - b_0^2}{b_0^2}}$$

$b_0$  = semi-minor axis

$L$  = absolute difference of longitude on the spheroid,  
between the given endpoints of the geodesic.

$\beta_1$  and  $\beta_2$  = parametric (or reduced) latitude of the westward  
and eastward endpoints, respectively.

The relationship between parametric latitude and geodetic latitude is given by the equation  $\tan \beta = \tan B(1-f)$  where  $f$  is the spheroidal flattening.

$\lambda$  = difference of longitude (approximately  $L$ ) on the reduced sphere, for which a progressively better value is found with each repetition of the following iteration process:

$$\cos \phi_0 = \sin \beta_1 \sin \beta_2 + \cos \beta_1 \cos \beta_2 \cos \lambda$$

$$\sin \phi_0 = (\text{sign of } \sin \lambda) \sqrt{1 - \cos^2 \phi_0}$$

$\phi_0$  = positive radians

$$\sin 2\phi_0 = 2 \sin \phi_0 \cos \phi_0$$

$$\sin 3\phi_0 = 3 \sin \phi_0 - 4 \sin^3 \phi_0$$

$$\cos \beta_0 = (\cos \beta_1 \cos \beta_2 \sin \lambda) \div \sin \phi_0$$

$$\sin^2 \beta_0 = 1 - \cos^2 \beta_0$$

$$\cos 2\sigma = (2 \sin \beta_1 \sin \beta_2 \div \sin^2 \beta_0) - \cos \phi_0$$

$$\cos 4\sigma = -1 + 2 \cos^2 2\sigma$$

$$\cos 6\sigma = 4 \cos^3 2\sigma - 3 \cos 2\sigma$$

$$A' = \frac{e^2 e_1}{e_1 + e} - \frac{e^2 e_1^2}{16} \sin^2 \beta_0 + \frac{3e^2 e_1^4}{128} \sin^4 \beta_0$$

$$B' = \frac{e^2 e_1^2}{16} \sin^2 \beta_0 - \frac{e^2 e_1^4}{32} \sin^4 \beta_0$$

$$C' = \frac{e^2 e_1^4}{256} \sin^4 \beta_0$$

$$T = A' \phi_0 - B' \sin \phi_0 \cos 2\sigma + C' \sin 2\phi_0 \cos 4\sigma$$

Next approximation to  $\lambda = [(L + T \cos \beta_0) \text{ radians.}]$

After a sufficiently accurate  $\lambda$  is found, and using the set

of values from the last iteration, the geodetic distance (S) and azimuths ( $\alpha$ ) between the endpoints are obtained as follows:

$$A_0 = 1 + \frac{e'^2}{4} \sin^2 \beta_0 - \frac{3e'^4}{64} \sin^4 \beta_0 + \frac{5e'^6}{256} \sin^6 \beta_0$$

$$P_0 = \frac{e'^2}{4} \sin^2 \beta_0 - \frac{e'^4}{16} \sin^4 \beta_0 + \frac{15e'^6}{512} \sin^6 \beta_0$$

$$C_0 = \frac{e'^4}{128} \sin^4 \beta_0 - \frac{3e'^6}{512} \sin^6 \beta_0$$

$$D_0 = \frac{e'^6}{16384} \sin^6 \beta_0$$

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} S &= b_0(A_0 \phi_0 + P_0 \sin \phi_0 \cos 2\sigma - C_0 \sin 2\phi_0 \cos 4\sigma \\ &\quad + D_0 \sin 3\phi_0 \cos 6\sigma) \\ \cot \alpha_{1-2} &= \frac{\tan \beta_2 \cos \beta_1 - \cos \lambda \sin \beta_1}{\sin \lambda} \\ \cot \alpha_{2-1} &= \frac{\sin \beta_2 \cos \lambda - \cos \beta_2 \tan \lambda}{\sin \lambda} \end{aligned} \right\}$$

where  $\alpha_{1-2}$  and  $\alpha_{2-1}$  range from  $0^\circ$  to  $180^\circ$  and  $180^\circ$  to  $360^\circ$ , respectively, clockwise from north.

### 3. Iterative Procedure to Solve for $\lambda$

Let it be assumed that the true value of  $\lambda$  is known (that is, the value that would result from an infinite number of Helmert approximations) and let this true value be represented by the given absolute difference of longitude on the spheroid plus a quantity  $x$

which will be determined later.

Thus:  $\lambda = (L + x) .$

It will be evident, later, that  $x$  is a very small positive quantity of the order of  $e^2$ , and therefore well suited for setting up a convergent power series in  $x$  for each expression contained in the Helmert procedure. For example, from the above assumed equation, the following is derived:

$$\begin{aligned}\cos \lambda &= \cos (L + x) \\ &= \cos L \cos x - \sin L \sin x \\ &= (\cos L) \left(1 - \frac{x^2}{2} + \dots\right) \\ &\quad - (\sin L) (x - \dots)\end{aligned}$$

Therefore:  $\cos \lambda = (\cos L) - (\sin L) x - \frac{1}{2}(\cos L) x^2 + \dots$

There is thus available, at the outset, a series for the true  $\cos \lambda$  with which to begin the Helmert solution and develop it in power series in  $x$  in its entirety. The process consists of substituting each new series into the succeeding Helmert expressions as required. For convenience, the following additional notation will be used:

$$\begin{aligned}N &= e' \div (e' + e) \\ a &= \sin \beta_1 \sin \beta_2 \\ b &= \cos \beta_1 \cos \beta_2 \\ \cos \bar{\phi} &= a + b \cos L \\ c &= b \sin L \csc \bar{\phi}\end{aligned}$$

$$m = 1 - c^2$$

$$h = e^2 m$$

$$P = m \cot \vartheta - a \csc \vartheta$$

$$U_1 = (\tan \beta_2 \cos \beta_1 - \cos L \sin \beta_1) \div \sin L$$

$$U_2 = (\sin \beta_2 \cos L - \cos \beta_2 \tan \beta_1) \div \sin L$$

Listed, below, in the same sequence as the corresponding Helmert expressions, is the complete set of series through  $\gamma \cos \beta_0$ . The extent of the powers of  $x$  is such as to permit accuracies of the 6<sup>th</sup> order in  $\lambda$ , for subsequent application to the distance and azimuths to the same degree of accuracy as the reference Helmert iteration form.

$$\cos \vartheta_0 = (\cos \vartheta) - (c \sin \vartheta) x - \frac{1}{2}(c^2 \cos \vartheta + P \sin \vartheta) x^2$$

$$\sin \vartheta_0 = (\sin \vartheta) + (c \cos \vartheta) x - \frac{1}{2}(c^2 \sin \vartheta - P \cos \vartheta) x^2$$

$$\begin{aligned} \vartheta_0 &= \vartheta + (\vartheta_0 - \vartheta) = \vartheta + \arcsin [\sin (\vartheta_0 - \vartheta)] \\ &= \vartheta + \arcsin [\sin \vartheta_0 \cos \vartheta - \cos \vartheta_0 \sin \vartheta] \\ &= \vartheta + (c) x + \frac{1}{2}(P) x^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\sin 2\vartheta_0 = 2 \sin \vartheta_0 \cos \vartheta_0$$

$$\sin \lambda = (\sin L) + (\cos L) x - \frac{1}{2} \sin L x^2$$

$$\cos \beta_0 = (c) + (v) x - \frac{1}{2}(cm + 3c P \cot \vartheta) x^2$$

$$\sin^2 \beta_0 = m - (2cP) x$$

$$\begin{aligned} \cos 2\sigma &= \frac{1}{m} (m \cos \vartheta - 2P \sin \vartheta) + \frac{1}{m^2} (cm^2 \sin \vartheta + 4 cmP \cos \vartheta \\ &\quad - 4cP^2 \sin \vartheta) x \end{aligned}$$

$$\cos 4\sigma = \frac{1}{m^2} (m^2 - 2m^2 \sin^2 \vartheta - 8mP \sin \vartheta \cos \vartheta + 8P^2 \sin^2 \vartheta)$$

$$A' = \frac{e^2}{128} (128N - 8h + 3h^2) + \frac{e^2}{8} (e'^2 cP) x$$

$$B' = \frac{e^2}{32} (2h - h^2) - \frac{e^2}{8} (e'^2 cP) x$$

$$C' = \frac{e^2}{256} (h^2)$$

$$A' \vartheta_0 = \frac{e^2}{128} (128N \vartheta - 8h \vartheta + 3h^2 \vartheta) + \frac{e^2}{16} (16Nc - hc + 2e'^2 cP \vartheta) x \\ + \frac{e^2}{2} (NP) x^2$$

$$-B' \sin \vartheta_0 \cos 2\sigma = \frac{e^2}{128} (-8h \sin \vartheta \cos \vartheta + 16e'^2 P \sin^2 \vartheta \\ + 4h^2 \sin \vartheta \cos \vartheta - 8e'^2 hP \sin^2 \vartheta) \\ - \frac{e^2}{16} (hc) x$$

$$C' \sin 2\vartheta_0 \cos 4\sigma = \frac{e^2}{128} (h^2 \sin \vartheta \cos \vartheta - 2h^2 \sin^3 \vartheta \cos \vartheta \\ - 8e'^2 hP \sin^2 \vartheta \cos^2 \vartheta + 8e'^4 P^2 \sin^3 \vartheta \cos \vartheta)$$

$$r_{\cos \beta} = \frac{e^2}{128} (128Nc\vartheta - 8hc\vartheta - 8hc \sin \vartheta \cos \vartheta + 16e'^2 cP \sin^2 \vartheta \\ + 3h^2 c\vartheta + 5h^2 c \sin \vartheta \cos \vartheta - 2h^2 c \sin^3 \vartheta \cos \vartheta \\ - 8e'^2 hcP \sin^2 \vartheta - 8e'^2 hcP \sin^2 \vartheta \cos^2 \vartheta \\ + 8e'^4 cP^2 \sin^3 \vartheta \cos \vartheta) + \frac{e^2}{16} (16Nc^2 + 16NP\vartheta - 2hc^2 \\ - hP\vartheta + 2e'^2 c^2 P\vartheta - hP \sin \vartheta \cos \vartheta + 2e'^2 P^2 \sin^2 \vartheta) x \\ - \frac{e^2}{2} (Ncm\vartheta - 3NcP + 3NcP' \cot \vartheta) x^2$$

#### L. Derivation of the Unknown Quantity x

Since the substitution into the Helmert iteration began with an algebraic series representing the true  $\lambda$ , the next approximation to  $\lambda$  must of necessity be its equal; that is:

The next approximation to  $\lambda =$  the starting true  $\lambda$

$$\text{or} \quad L + T \cos \beta_0 = L + x$$

$$\text{and therefore} \quad T \cos \beta_0 = x.$$

By replacing  $T \cos \beta_0$  with its corresponding power series, the above equation takes the following quadratic form:

$$Q_1 + Q_2 x + Q_3 x^2 = x$$

for which the required solution of  $x$  to the proper order is

$$x = Q_1(1 + Q_2 + Q_2^2 + Q_1 Q_3).$$

Finally, substituting for  $Q_1$ ,  $Q_2$  and  $Q_3$ , produces the following end result:

$$\begin{aligned} x = \frac{e^2 c}{128} & \left[ 128 N \bar{\theta} + 128 e^2 N^2 c^2 \bar{\theta} - 8 h \bar{\theta} - 8 h \sin \bar{\theta} \cos \bar{\theta} + 126 e^2 N^2 P \bar{\theta}^2 \right. \\ & + 16 e^2 P \sin^2 \bar{\theta} + 128 e^4 N^3 c^4 \bar{\theta} - 2 h e^2 N h c^2 \bar{\theta} + 3 h^2 \bar{\theta} \\ & - 8 e^2 N h c^2 \sin \bar{\theta} \cos \bar{\theta} + 5 h^2 \sin \bar{\theta} \cos \bar{\theta} - 6 h e^4 N^3 c^2 \bar{\theta}^3 \\ & - 2 h^2 \sin^3 \bar{\theta} \cos \bar{\theta} + (16 e^2 e^2 N + 4 h^2 e^4 N^3) c^2 P \bar{\theta}^2 \\ & - 16 e^2 N h P \bar{\theta}^2 + 16 e^2 e^2 N c^2 P \sin^2 \bar{\theta} - 8 e^2 h P \sin^2 \bar{\theta} \\ & - 16 e^2 N h P \bar{\theta} \sin \bar{\theta} \cos \bar{\theta} - 17 e^4 N^3 c^2 P \bar{\theta}^3 \cot \bar{\theta} \\ & - 8 e^2 h P \sin^2 \bar{\theta} \cos^2 \bar{\theta} + 128 e^4 N^3 p^2 \bar{\theta}^3 \\ & \left. + 32 e^2 e^2 N P^2 \bar{\theta} \sin^2 \bar{\theta} + 8 e^4 h p^2 \sin^3 \bar{\theta} \cos \bar{\theta} \right] \end{aligned}$$

The above rigorously developed expression is completely non-iterative, since it requires only the given spheroidal longitude. It therefore permits a direct evaluation of the ultimately true  $\lambda$  (that is,  $1 + x$ ), extended in this case through terms equivalent to the  $e^2$ ,  $e^4$  and  $e^6$  order consecutively, in accordance to the accuracy that may be desired. Furthermore, it represents the algebraic solution of the hitherto unknown quantity  $x$  used in the power series version of each of the intermediate Helmert expressions.

#### 5. Determination of Geodetic Distance and Azimuths

The non-iterative expression that has been developed for  $x$  suggests at once a numerical solution of distance and azimuths wherein, using the resulting true value of  $\lambda$ , only a single evaluation of Helmert's original formulas is necessary. An illustrative example by such a procedure is given in *paragraph 7*.

On the other hand, instead of reverting to functions of the true  $\lambda$ , the distance and azimuths themselves can be expanded non-iteratively into power series of  $x$  with coefficients in terms of the given spheroidal difference of longitude. This is accomplished below, but limited to the  $e^4$  order of accuracy, since this manner of obtaining the distance and azimuths through  $e^6$  would require each component series to one higher power of  $x$  than was necessary for  $\lambda$ . Again, the series are developed in the same sequence as

the corresponding Helmert expression.

$$A_0 = \frac{1}{64} (64 + 16h - 3h^2) - \frac{1}{2} (e'^2 cP) x$$

$$E_0 = \frac{1}{16} (4h - h^2) - \frac{1}{2} (e'^2 cP) x$$

$$C_0 = \frac{h^2}{128}$$

$$A_0 \varphi_0 = \frac{1}{64} (64\varphi + 16h\varphi - 3h^2\varphi) + \frac{1}{4} (2c + hc - 2e'^2 cP\varphi) x \\ + \frac{1}{2} (P) x^2$$

$$E_0 \sin^2 \varphi_0 \cos 2\sigma = \frac{1}{64} (16h \sin \varphi \cos \varphi - 32e'^2 P \sin^2 \varphi - 4h^2 \sin \varphi \cos \varphi \\ + 8e'^2 hP \sin^2 \varphi) + \frac{1}{4} (hc) x$$

$$-C_0 \sin^2 \varphi_0 \cos 4\sigma = \frac{1}{64} (-h^2 \sin \varphi \cos \varphi + 2h^2 \sin^3 \varphi \cos \varphi + 8e'^2 hP \sin^2 \varphi \cos^2 \varphi \\ - 8e'^4 P^2 \sin^3 \varphi \cos \varphi)$$

$$S = \left[ \frac{b_0}{64} (64\varphi + 16h\varphi + 16h \sin \varphi \cos \varphi - 32e'^2 P \sin^2 \varphi - 3h^2 \varphi - 5h^2 \sin \varphi \cos \varphi + 2h^2 \sin^3 \varphi \cos \varphi + 8e'^2 hP \sin^2 \varphi + 8e'^2 hP \sin^2 \varphi \cos^2 \varphi - 8e'^4 P^2 \sin^3 \varphi \cos \varphi) + \frac{b_0}{2} (2c + hc - e'^2 cP\varphi) x + \frac{b_0}{2} (P) x^2 \right]$$

$$\cot \alpha_{1-2} = \left[ U_1 - \left( \frac{U_2 \cos \beta_1}{\sin L \cos \beta_2} \right) x + \left( \frac{U_1}{2 \sin^2 L} + \frac{U_2 \cos L \cos \beta_1}{2 \sin^2 L \cos \beta_2} \right) x^2 \right]$$

$$\cot \alpha_{2-1} = \left[ U_2 - \left( \frac{U_1 \cos \beta_2}{\sin L \cos \beta_1} \right) x + \left( \frac{U_2}{2 \sin^2 L} + \frac{U_1 \cos L \cos \beta_2}{2 \sin^2 L \cos \beta_1} \right) x^2 \right]$$

The  $x$  and  $x^2$  for the above formulas of distance and azimuths can be substituted either numerically or algebraically using, in this case, only the first 6 terms of  $x$  for accuracies equivalent to the  $e^4$  order. The algebraic substitution gives the following final expressions:

$$S = \frac{b_0}{\delta L} \left[ 64\phi^2 + 64e^2 N c^2 \phi^2 + 16h\phi^2 + 16h \sin \phi \cos \phi \right. \\ - 32e^2 P \sin^2 \phi + 64e^4 N^2 c^4 \phi^2 - 3h^2 \phi^2 + (32e^2 N - 4e^2) h c^2 \phi^2 \\ - 4e^2 h c^2 \sin \phi \cos \phi - 5h^2 \sin \phi \cos \phi + 2h^2 \sin^3 \phi \cos \phi \\ + (96e^4 N^2 - 32e^2 e^2 N) c^2 P \phi^2 + 8e^2 e^2 P \sin^2 \phi \\ + 8e^2 h P \sin^2 \phi + 8e^2 h P \sin^2 \phi \cos^2 \phi \\ \left. - 8e^4 P^2 \sin^3 \phi \cos \phi \right]$$

$$\cot \alpha_{1-2} = U_1 - \frac{e^2 N c^2 U_2 \cos \beta_1}{\sin L \cos \beta_2} - \frac{e^4 N^2 c^3 U_2 \cos \beta_1}{\sin L \cos \beta_2} \\ + \frac{e^2 h c^2 U_2 \cos \beta_1}{16 \sin L \cos \beta_2} + \frac{e^2 h c U_2 \sin \phi \cos \phi \cos \beta_1}{16 \sin L \cos \beta_2} \\ - \frac{e^4 N^2 c P U_2 \cos \beta_1}{\sin L \cos \beta_2} - \frac{e^2 e^2 c P U_2 \sin^2 \phi \cos \beta_1}{8 \sin L \cos \beta_2} \\ + \frac{e^4 N^2 c^2 \phi^2 U_2 \cos L \cos \beta_1}{2 \sin^2 L \cos \beta_2} + \frac{e^4 N^2 c^2 \phi^2 U_1}{2 \sin^2 L}$$

The corresponding  $\cot \alpha_{2-1}$  is obtainable from the above by interchanging  $U_1$  with  $U_2$  and  $\beta_1$  with  $\beta_2$ .

Thus, progressively, there have been developed three rigorous methods for determining geodetic distance and azimuths non-iteratively: as a function of the true  $\lambda$ , as a power series in  $x$ , and culminated by an explicit expression in essentially the given spheroidal latitude and longitude of the endpoints. For shorter lines, or for reduced accuracy on long lines, terms may be still further eliminated according to the next higher powers of  $e^2$ ,  $e'^2$ ,  $h$  and  $x$ , or equivalent combinations thereof.

#### 6. Other Non-Iterative Solutions

The distance and azimuths by the original Helmer method are essentially functions of elements in the following spherical triangle:

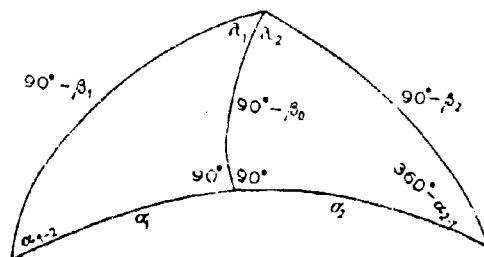


Fig. 1.

where

$$\lambda = \lambda_2 - \lambda_1$$

$$\beta_0 = \tau_2 - \tau_1$$

$$2\sigma = \tau_2 + \tau_1$$

and  $\lambda_1$ ,  $\lambda_2$ ,  $\sigma_1$  and  $\sigma_2$  are regarded as negative or positive according to whether they are west or east of the perpendicular arc  $90^\circ - \beta_0$ .

(For this specific configuration, therefore,  $\lambda$  and  $\phi_0$  actually represent the sum of the absolute components and  $2\sigma$  the difference.)

Since Helmert's method of successive approximations can only determine  $\lambda$  first, the subsequent solution of the above spherical triangle would always begin with  $\lambda$  and the known  $A_1$  and  $A_2$ . The present paper, however, has developed not only a non-iterative expression for  $\lambda$ , but also independent power series for the various elements of this spherical triangle or functions thereof. Therefore the combination of ways to compute quantities leading to the distance and azimuths is increased considerably. In addition, the  $x$  for such series can be substituted either numerically or algebraically, in the manner shown for the distance and azimuth series in Chapter 5.

The above potentiality for increasing the number of non-iterative solutions may be seen from the expressions (1) below, wherein the  $x$  and  $x^2$  of the  $\phi_0$  series are algebraically eliminated.

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} \phi_0 = \phi + \frac{16e^2N - e^2e'^2}{16} (c^2\phi) + \frac{16e^4N^2 + e^2e'^2}{16} (c^4\phi) \\ + \frac{e^2e'^2}{16} (c^2\sin\phi\cos\phi) - \frac{e^2e'^2}{16} (c^4\sin\phi\cos\phi) \\ - \frac{e^2e'^2}{8} (ac^2\sin\phi) + \frac{3e^4N^2}{2} (c^2d\phi^2) - \frac{3e^4N^2}{2} (c^4\phi^2\cot\phi) \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (1)$$

The computed value of  $\phi_0$  is then combined with  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  to obtain  $\alpha$ 's, followed by  $B_0$ ,  $2\sigma$ ,  $A_0$ ,  $B_0$ ,  $C_0$  and finally the geodetic distance. When adopting such varied procedures for solving

the reference triangle, care should be taken to avoid formulations which lead to a weak determination of required quantities. These difficulties may most likely occur at extremes of latitude, longitude, or azimuth.

The non-iterative series, too, are functions of elements of a spherical triangle, but defined by  $\beta_1$  and  $\beta_2$  and the given longitude  $L$ . This amounts simply to a substitution of  $L$  for  $\lambda$ , which results in a spherical triangle with parts corresponding as follows:

Series	$\beta_1$	$\beta_2$	$L$	$\bar{p}$	$c$	$U_1$	$U_2$
Helmert	$\beta_1$	$\beta_2$	$\lambda$	$\bar{p}_0$	$\cos \beta_0$	$\cot \alpha_{1-2}$	$\cot \alpha_{2-1}$

Starting with the given  $\beta_1, \beta_2$ , and  $L$ , the values of all quantities used in the non-iterative series may thus be solved trigonometrically in various orders.

It is also to be noted that in the relation  $\lambda = (L + x)$ , if  $x$  is assumed to be zero,  $L$  is considered to be equal to  $\lambda$ . Therefore in the various power series in  $x$ , the constant term can represent the true value of the series by simply replacing functions of  $L$  with  $\lambda$ . This is well illustrated by the  $A_0$  series in  $x$  in paragraph 1 and its counterpart in paragraph 2 to the same order. The principle can well be incorporated in computation forms, such as the one on the next two pages, so applied to  $H$ ,  $I$ , etc.

# 7. Numerical Illustration of a Sample Solution (International Spheroid)

$$\text{Given } \begin{cases} L = \text{absolute difference of longitude} & 106^\circ \\ B_1 = \text{latitude of westward point} & 20^\circ \text{ N} \\ B_2 = \text{latitude of eastward point} & 45^\circ \text{ N} \end{cases}$$

$$\tan \beta_1 = 0.99663 \ 29966 \tan B_1 \quad 0.36274 \ 47453$$

$$\tan \beta_2 = 0.99663 \ 29966 \tan B_2 \quad 0.99663 \ 29966$$

$$\cos \beta_1 = 1 \div \sqrt{1 + \tan^2 \beta_1} \quad 0.94006 \ 23275$$

$$\cos \beta_2 = 1 \div \sqrt{1 + \tan^2 \beta_2} \quad 0.70829 \ 81969$$

$$\sin \beta_1 = \tan \beta_1 \cos \beta_1 \quad 0.34100 \ 26695$$

$$\sin \beta_2 = \tan \beta_2 \cos \beta_2 \quad 0.70591 \ 33545$$

$$a = \sin \beta_1 \sin \beta_2 \quad 0.24071 \ 83383$$

$$b = \cos \beta_1 \cos \beta_2 \quad 0.66584 \ 44515$$

$$\sin L \quad 0.96126 \ 16959$$

$$\cos L \quad 0.27563 \ 73558$$

$$\cos \phi = a + b \cos L \quad 0.05718 \ 67343$$

$$\sin \phi = (\text{sign of } \sin L) \sqrt{1 - \cos^2 \phi} \quad 0.99836 \ 34996$$

$$\phi = \text{positive radians} \quad 1.51357 \ 83766$$

$$A = (b \sin L) \div \sin \phi \quad 0.64109 \ 99269$$

$$B = A^2 \quad 0.41100 \ 91163$$

$$C = [\cos \phi - (\cos \phi) B] \div 4.9504 \ 20649 \quad 0.00675 \ 47028$$

$$D = -a(0.40108 \ 12636) \quad 0.09654 \ 76152$$

$$E = -a(0.79944 \ 93686) \quad 0.19241 \ 45307$$

$$F = (3.9865 \ 20649)C \quad 0.02692 \ 77622$$

$$G = \phi^2 \div \sin \phi \quad 2.29467 \ 47388$$

$$\begin{aligned}
x_{\text{rad}} &= \left\{ A [\phi(237.2388918 + B) + \sin \phi(C+D) + C(F+E)] \right\} \div 70519.51145 & 0.00326 \ 58167 \\
\lambda &= L + x & 106^{\circ}11'13''.62305 \\
\sin \lambda & & 0.96035 \ 63902 \\
\cos \lambda & & -0.27877 \ 51848 \\
\cos \phi_0 &= a + b \cos \lambda & 0.05509 \ 74283 \\
\sin \phi_0 &= (\text{sign of } \sin \lambda) \sqrt{1 - \cos^2 \phi_0} & 0.99848 \ 09830 \\
\phi_0 &= \text{positive radians} & 1.51567 \ 02835 \\
\sin 2\phi_0 &= (\sin \phi_0 \cos \phi_0) \div 0.5 & 0.11002 \ 74687 \\
\cos \beta_0 &= (b \sin \lambda) \div \sin \phi_0 & 0.64042 \ 07839 \\
q &= 1 - \cos^2 \beta_0 & 0.58986 \ 12195 \\
\cos 2\sigma &= (2a - q \cos \phi_0) \div q & 0.76102 \ 89231 \\
\cos 4\sigma &= (\cos^2 2\sigma - 0.5) \div 0.5 & 0.15851 \ 26977 \\
H &= 6356911.946 + 10756.165q - 13.450q^2 & 6363251.841 \\
I &= 10756.165q - 18.200q^2 & 6338.312 \\
J &= 2.275q^2 & 0.792 \\
\alpha_{1-2} &= \frac{(\tan \beta_2 \cos \beta_1 - \cos \lambda \sin \beta_1)}{\sin \lambda} & 1.07455 \ 96397 \\
\alpha_{2-1} &= \frac{(\sin \beta_2 \cos \lambda - \cos \beta_2 \tan \beta_1)}{\sin \lambda} & -0.47245 \ 22891 \\
\alpha_{1-2} &= \text{Clockwise from North, in quad I or II for cot + or -, resp.} & 42^{\circ}56'30''.03597 \\
\alpha_{2-1} &= \text{Clockwise from North, in quad III or IV for cot + or -, resp.} & 295^{\circ}17'18''.52865 \\
\text{meters} &= H\phi_0 + I \sin \phi_0 \cos 2\sigma - J \sin 2\phi_0 \cosh \sigma & 9649412.85 \text{m.}
\end{aligned}$$

## 8. Numerical Coefficients For Other Spheroids

The illustrative solution given in the preceding section contains fixed numerical coefficients which are functions solely of the size and shape of the International spheroid. The algebraic expressions of these coefficients, together with their values, are shown below in the order of appearance in the sample solution. For any other spheroid, these expressions can be quickly re-evaluated once and for all and substituted for the corresponding International values. (Note:  $e^2N$  = flattening.)

$+ \sqrt{1 - e^2}$	=	0.99663	29966
$(16e^2N^2 + e'^2) \div e'^2$	=	4.9865	20649
$2e'^2 \div (16e^2N^2 + e'^2)$	=	0.40108	12630
$16e^2N^2 \div (16e^2N^2 + e'^2)$	=	0.79945	93686
$16e^2N^2 \div e'^2$	=	3.9865	20649
$(16N - e'^2) \div (16e^2N^2 + e'^2)$	=	237.2386	918
$16 \div e^2(16e^2N^2 + e'^2)$	=	70519.51145	
$b_0$	=	6356911.946	
$b_0e'^2 \div 4$	=	10756.165	
$3b_0e'^4 \div 64$	=	13.650	
$b_0e'^4 \div 16$	=	18.200	
$b_0e'^4 \div 128$	=	2.275	

## 9. Additional Notes on Computational Procedures

Although the illustrative solution given in paragraph 7

is primarily intended for accuracy equivalent to the  $e^4$  order, it easily lends itself to any required degree. This is accomplished simply by adding or subtracting appropriate terms of  $x$ ,  $H$ ,  $I$ ,  $J$ , and  $S$ . The extended terms are given in the latter part of Section III, paragraphs 1 and 2, respectively. For short lines or reduced accuracy on long lines,  $x$  on the International spheroid becomes merely  $(A\phi + 297)$  and all terms in  $q^2$  are omitted, with the consequent elimination of many other supporting quantities. Similar savings are realized for other forms of solutions presented herein.

For short lines, the resulting small  $\phi$  is computed more accurately from  $\sin \phi$  obtained as follows:

$$\sin \frac{\phi}{2} = \sqrt{b \sin^2 \frac{L}{2} + \sin^2 \frac{\beta_1 - \beta_2}{2}}$$

$$\cos \frac{\phi}{2} = (\text{sign of } \sin L) \sqrt{0.5(1 + \cos \phi)}$$

$$\sin \phi = \left( \sin \frac{\phi}{2} \cos \frac{\phi}{2} \right) \div 0.5$$

Similarly,  $\sin \phi_0$  is obtained as above by replacing  $\phi$  with  $\phi_0$  and  $L$  with  $\lambda$ . In either case, squaring the small sines under the radical increases their significant decimal places.

If the numerator of  $x$  is to be cumulated on a ten digit calculator, 9 decimal places should be allotted to  $\phi$ ,  $\sin \phi$  and  $\beta$ , but only 7 decimals to their multipliers. However, when the value

of G is 10 or greater, decrease its decimal places accordingly and increase those of F and E correspondingly. For a smaller calculator, reduce all decimals equally.

Use co-function of  $\tan \beta$  or  $\cot \alpha$  when their values are too large.

$$\text{Thus } \cot \beta_n = \frac{\cot B_n}{+ \sqrt{1-e^2}} \text{ and } \tan \alpha = \frac{1}{\cot \alpha}$$

The accuracy of geodetic distances computed through the  $e^2$ ,  $e^4$  and  $e^6$  order for very long geodesics is within a few meters, centimeters and tenths of millimeters respectively. Azimuths are good to tenths, thousandths, and hundred thousandths of a second. Further improvement of results occurs for shorter lines.

Some of the terms in the sample solution of paragraph 7 have been grouped for ease of computing by desk calculator. For electronic computers, however, the terms are best left in series form, thus being ideally suited to adding or removing them according to accuracy requirements.

#### 10. Antipodal Points

In the various series that have been presented,  $\phi$  represents a spherical arc distance which varies from  $0^\circ$  to  $180^\circ$  and even to  $360^\circ$  according to whether the geodetic line is very short, half around the earth or completely around it. At these specific instances, quantities such as  $\csc \phi$ ,  $\cot \phi$ , and P approach infinity. For the case of the very short lines, this condition is equalized

the factors  $\tilde{\rho}$  and  $\sin \tilde{\rho}$  which remain finite. For the series to converge, however, the series gradually tends to zero as  $\tilde{\rho}$  becomes larger.

Closer inspection of the various series in  $x$  shows, nevertheless, that this condition of divergence never prevails in the constant series, and for succeeding coefficients it is no greater degree than the power of the corresponding  $x$ . Therefore, here too it could be equalized if  $x$  were sufficiently small.

The first equation of (1) relates  $\lambda$  as follows:

$$\lambda = (L + x).$$

This true value of  $\lambda$  could have been represented, instead, by:

$$\lambda = (L_0 + x)$$

where  $L_0$  is an arbitrary amount of longitude very nearly equal to  $\lambda$  and therefore  $x$  is correspondingly smaller than  $x$ . This new assumption leads to a set of power series in  $x$  which are identical to those in (1), except that its coefficients will be a function of  $L_0$  instead of  $L$ . The obvious value to assign to  $L_0$  would be the slightly more accurate result of solving an equation like (1) in terms of the larger  $\lambda$ .

The relation derived at the beginning of (1) will accordingly change from:

$$r \cos \beta_0 = x$$

$$(L - L_0) + r \cos \beta_0 = x$$

where, as noted, the substitution of the  $T \cos \beta_0$  series given at the end of paragraph 3 will now be in terms of  $L_n$  and  $\lambda$  instead of  $L$  and  $x$ . Solving the above equation for  $\lambda$  (this time through only the  $e^4$  order of accuracy) gives:

$$\lambda = \frac{16(I - L_n) + (16e^2 N c \delta - e^2 h c \delta - e^2 h c \sin \delta \cos \delta + 2e^2 e'^2 c P \sin^2 \delta)_n}{16(1 - e^2 N c^2 - e^2 N P \delta)_n}$$

where the subscripts  $n$  to the parenthesis indicate that  $c$ ,  $\delta$ ,  $h$ ,  $P$ , etc. are functions of  $L_n$  instead of  $L$ . This time, the denominator of the expression cannot be algebraically divided into the numerator, because the  $e^2 N P \delta$  term is relatively large for nearly antipodal lines.

With the above correction  $\lambda$  to an arbitrary but sufficiently accurate value  $L_n$ , the true  $\lambda$  of antinodal lines is essentially obtained again non-iteratively, and therefore more rapidly than by numerous individual successive approximations. Thus, also, a previous 4" longitude discrepancy noted by Mr. H. F. Rainsford<sup>(2)</sup> for a line of about 179°46'18" longitude would be resolved. In this connection, appreciation is expressed to Mr. Rainsford for his interest in the subject which resulted in profitable correspondence.

#### SECTION IV

##### TABULAR AND ELECTRONIC COMPUTER METHOD FOR NON-ITERATIVE

##### SOLUTION OF GEODETIC INVERSE, BASED ON CODANO'S PAPER

Due to their series-like nature, the formulas given in this section for distance and azimuth are more adaptable to electronic computer

programming then the corresponding closed formulas of Section III.

This method (unlike the one just discussed) does not have the restriction that  $B_1$  and  $L_1$  must be the latitude and longitude, respectively, of the westward point. Here,  $B_1$  and  $L_1$  are the geographic latitude and longitude, respectively, of any point.

The distance equation of this section was derived by making the following substitutions into the distance S equation on page 11:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} f &= e^2 N \\ e'^2 m &= h \text{ (where } e'^2 \text{ was expressed in terms of } f) \\ m &= 1 - c^2 \end{aligned} \right\} (1)$$

$$P = (1 - c^2) \cot \phi - a \csc \phi$$

The expression  $(\lambda - L)$  of this method is equivalent to "x" on page 11. The series for  $(\lambda - L)$  was derived by making the substitutions (1) into the equation for "x" on page 11. The computation for this method is as follows:

$B_1, L_1$  = geographic latitude and longitude, respectively,  
of any point

$B_2, L_2$  = geographic latitude and longitude, respectively,  
of any other point, non-antipodal

Latitudes and longitudes considered (+) north and east, (-) south and west.

Required:  $\alpha, S$  = azimuths clockwise from north and distance  
between points, respectively.

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{S}{b_0} = & \left[ (1 + f + f^2) \vartheta \right] \\
& + a \left[ (f + f^2) \sin \vartheta - \frac{f^2}{2} \vartheta^2 \csc \vartheta \right] \\
& + m \left[ - \frac{(f + f^2)}{2} \vartheta - \frac{(f + f^2)}{2} \sin \vartheta \cos \vartheta + \frac{f^2}{2} \vartheta^2 \cot \vartheta \right] \\
& + a^2 \left[ - \frac{f^2}{2} \sin \vartheta \cos \vartheta \right] \\
& + m^2 \left[ \left( \frac{f^2}{16} \right) \vartheta + \frac{f^2}{16} \sin \vartheta \cos \vartheta - \frac{f^2}{2} \vartheta^2 \cot \vartheta - \frac{f^2}{8} \sin \vartheta \cos^3 \vartheta \right] \\
& + am \left[ \left( \frac{f^2}{2} \right) \vartheta^2 \csc \vartheta + \frac{f^2}{2} \sin \vartheta \cos^2 \vartheta \right]
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{(\lambda - L)}{\vartheta_c} = & \left[ (f + f^2) \vartheta \right] + a \left[ - \left( \frac{f^2}{2} \right) \sin \vartheta - f^2 \vartheta \csc \vartheta \right] \\
& + m \left[ - \frac{5f^2}{4} \vartheta - \frac{f^2}{4} \sin \vartheta \cos \vartheta + f^2 \vartheta \cot \vartheta \right]
\end{aligned}$$

where:  $a_0, b_0$  = semi-major and semi-minor axes, respectively, of spheroid

$$f = \text{spheroidal flattening} = \left(1 - \frac{b_0}{a_0}\right)$$

$$\rho = \text{number of seconds in one radian} = 206,264.80625$$

$$L = (L_2 - L_1) \text{ or } (L_2 - L_1) + [\text{sign opposite of } (L_2 - L_1)] 360^\circ$$

Use either  $L$  has an absolute value  $<$  or  $> 180^\circ$ ; according to whether the shorter or longer geodetic arc is required. However, for meridional arcs ( $|L| = 0^\circ$  or  $180^\circ$  or  $360^\circ$ ) use either  $L$  but consider it as (+) for the shorter and (-) for the longer arc.

$$\tan \beta = \tan B (1-f) \text{ when } |B| \leq 45^\circ \text{ or } \cot \beta = \frac{\cot B}{1-f} \text{ when } |B| > 45^\circ$$

$$a = \sin \beta_1 \sin \beta_2$$

$$b = \cos \beta_1 \cos \beta_2$$

$$\cos \bar{\ell} = a + b \cos L$$

$$\sin \bar{\ell} = \pm \sqrt{(\sin L \cos \beta_2)^2 + (\sin \beta_2 \cos \beta_1 - \sin \beta_1 \cos \beta_2 \cos L)^2}$$

The sign of  $\sin \bar{\ell}$  is (+) or (-) according to whether the shorter or the longer arc is required. The quantity under the radical and its root must be computed by floating decimal to obtain  $\sin \bar{\ell}$  to full accuracy for short lines.

$$\bar{\ell} = \text{positive radians (obtain reference angle from } \sin \bar{\ell} \text{ or } \cos \bar{\ell} \text{ whichever has smaller absolute value.)}$$

$$c = (b \sin L) \div \sin \bar{\ell}$$

$$m = 1 - c^2$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \cot \alpha_{1-2} &= (\tan \beta_2 \cos \beta_1 - \cos \lambda \sin \beta_1) \div \sin \lambda \\ \cot \alpha_{2-1} &= (\cos \lambda \sin \beta_2 - \tan \beta_1 \cos \beta_2) \div \sin \lambda \end{aligned} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{Omit for} \\ \text{meridional} \\ \text{arcs} \end{array}$$

If  $|\cot \alpha| > 1$ , divide result into 1 to obtain  $\tan \alpha$  instead.

		Quadrant of $\alpha_{1-2}$			Quadrant of $\alpha_{2-1}$
Sign $L$	Sign of tan or (cot) $\alpha_{1-2}$		Sign of tan or (cot) $\alpha_{2-1}$		
+	+	I	+	III	
	-	II	-	IV	
-	+	III	+	I	
	-	IV	-	II	

For meridional arcs, enter the above table with the sign of the numerator of  $\cot \alpha$ , and reference angle  $0^\circ$ .

11. Extension and Modification of Tabular & Electronic Computer Method For Non-Iterative Solution of 3-Side 3-Angle Traverse For Increased Decimal Accuracy in Short and Long Lines

Additional accuracy in the distance  $S$  may be obtained by adding the  $F^3$  terms to the  $\frac{S}{F}$  series given above.  
The series then becomes:

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{S}{b_0} = & (1+f+f^2+f^3) \vartheta \\
& + a \left[ (f+f^2+f^3)\sin\vartheta + (-\frac{1}{2}f^2-f^3)\vartheta^2 \csc\vartheta + \frac{1}{2}f^3\vartheta^3 \csc\vartheta \cot\vartheta \right] \\
& + m \left[ (\frac{1}{2}f-\frac{1}{2}f^2-\frac{1}{2}f^3)\vartheta + (-\frac{1}{2}f-\frac{1}{2}f^2-\frac{1}{2}f^3)\sin\vartheta \cos\vartheta \right. \\
& \quad \left. + (\frac{1}{2}f^2+f^3)\vartheta^2 \cot\vartheta - \frac{1}{6}f^3 \vartheta^3 - \frac{1}{2}f^3\vartheta^3 \cot^2\vartheta \right] \\
& + a^2 \left[ (-\frac{1}{2}f^2-f^3)\sin\vartheta \cos\vartheta + \frac{1}{2}f^3\vartheta^3 \csc^2\vartheta + \frac{1}{2}f^3\vartheta \right] \\
& + m^2 \left[ (+\frac{1}{16}f^2 + \frac{1}{8}f^3)\vartheta + (\frac{1}{16}f^2 + \frac{1}{8}f^3)\sin\vartheta \cos\vartheta \right. \\
& \quad \left. + (-\frac{1}{2}f^2 - \frac{7}{4}f^3)\vartheta^2 \cot\vartheta + (-\frac{1}{8}f^2 - \frac{1}{4}f^3)\sin\vartheta \cos^3\vartheta \right. \\
& \quad \left. + \frac{1}{4}f^3\vartheta \cos^2\vartheta + \frac{1}{3}f^3\vartheta^3 + \frac{3}{2}f^3\vartheta^3 \cot^2\vartheta \right] \\
& + am \left[ (\frac{1}{2}f^2 + \frac{7}{4}f^3)\vartheta^2 \csc\vartheta + (\frac{1}{2}f^2 + f^3)\sin\vartheta \cos^2\vartheta \right. \\
& \quad \left. - \frac{3}{4}f^3\vartheta \cos\vartheta - 2f^3\vartheta^3 \csc\vartheta \cot\vartheta \right] \\
& + a^2m \left[ -\frac{1}{2}f^3\vartheta - \frac{1}{2}f^3\sin\vartheta \cos\vartheta - \frac{1}{2}f^3\vartheta^3 \csc^2\vartheta + f^3\sin^3\vartheta \cos\vartheta \right] \\
& + am^2 \left[ -\frac{3}{4}f^3\vartheta^2 \csc\vartheta + \frac{1}{2}f^3\sin\vartheta \cos^2\vartheta + \frac{3}{4}f^3\vartheta \cos\vartheta \right. \\
& \quad \left. + \frac{3}{2}f^3\vartheta^3 \csc\vartheta \cot\vartheta - \frac{1}{2}f^3\sin\vartheta + \frac{1}{2}f^3 \sin^5\vartheta \right] \\
& + m^3 \left[ -\frac{1}{32}f^3\vartheta + \frac{3}{4}f^3\vartheta^2 \cot\vartheta - \frac{1}{32}f^3 \sin\vartheta \cos\vartheta \right. \\
& \quad \left. + \frac{1}{16}f^3\sin\vartheta \cos^3\vartheta - \frac{1}{4}f^3\vartheta \cos^2\vartheta - \frac{1}{6}f^3\vartheta^3 - f^3\vartheta^3 \cot^2\vartheta \right. \\
& \quad \left. + \frac{1}{12}f^3\sin^3\vartheta \cos^3\vartheta \right] \\
& + a^3 \left[ \frac{1}{2}f^3 \sin\vartheta - \frac{2}{3}f^3 \sin^3\vartheta \right]
\end{aligned}$$

The maximum values for the  $f^3$  term of  $\frac{S}{b_0}$  have been found for various lengths of arc  $\phi$  and are recorded in Appendix I, Part A.

Similarly, the accuracy of the  $\frac{(\lambda-L)}{\rho c}$  series may be extended by adding the  $f^3$  term. The series then becomes:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\lambda-L}{\rho c} = & \left[ (f+f^2+f^3) \phi \right] + a \left[ (-\frac{1}{2}f^2-f^3) \sin \phi + (-f^2-Lf^3) \phi^2 \csc \phi \right. \\ & \left. + \frac{3}{2} f^3 \phi^3 \csc \phi \cot \phi \right] + m \left[ (-\frac{5}{4} f^2-3f^3) \phi + (\frac{1}{2}f^2+\frac{1}{2}f^3) \sin \phi \cos \phi \right. \\ & \left. + (f^2+4f^3) \phi^2 \cot \phi - \frac{1}{2} f^3 \phi^3 - \frac{3}{2} f^3 \phi^3 \cot^2 \phi \right] \\ & + n^2 \left[ \frac{31}{16} f^3 \phi - \frac{7}{16} f^3 \sin \phi \cos \phi + \frac{1}{2} f^3 \phi^3 - \frac{1}{8} f^3 \sin^3 \phi \cos \phi \right. \\ & \left. - \frac{9}{2} f^3 \phi^2 \cot \phi + \frac{1}{2} f^3 \phi \cos^2 \phi + \frac{5}{2} f^3 \phi^3 \cot^2 \phi \right] \\ & + am \left[ \frac{2}{2} f^3 \phi^2 \csc \phi - \frac{3}{2} f^3 \phi \cos \phi - \frac{7}{2} f^3 \phi^3 \csc \phi \cot \phi - \frac{f^3}{2} \sin \phi \cos^2 \phi \right. \\ & \left. + f^3 \sin \phi \right] + a^2 \left[ f^3 \phi + \frac{1}{2} f^3 \sin \phi \cos \phi + f^3 \phi^3 \csc^2 \phi \right] \end{aligned}$$

The  $f^3$  term of the above series has been maximized and this value is shown in Appendix I, Part A. The error in the azimuth  $\alpha$  which would result from the omission of the  $f^3$  term of  $\frac{(\lambda-L)}{\rho c}$  has been recorded in Appendix I, Part A.

In the case of short geodetic lines (lines shorter than 180 miles) when the values of  $\varphi$ ,  $\lambda$ -L, etc. of the series above become small, it is necessary to use floating point notation in order to insure greater decimal accuracy.

The alternative formulas for  $\sin \varphi$ ,  $\cot \alpha_{1-2}$  and  $\cot \alpha_{2-1}$ , which are given below are recommended for short lines. (They may also be used for long lines).

$$\sin \varphi = \pm \sqrt{(\sin L \cos \beta_2)^2 + [\sin(\beta_2 - \beta_1) + 2 \cos \beta_2 \sin \beta_1 \sin^2 \frac{\lambda}{2}]^2}$$

$$\cot \alpha_{1-2} = \frac{[\sin(\beta_2 - \beta_1) + \cos \beta_2 \sin \beta_1 (1 - \cos \lambda)]}{\cos \beta_2 \sin \lambda}$$

$$\cot \alpha_{2-1} = \frac{[\sin(\beta_2 - \beta_1) - \cos \beta_1 \sin \beta_2 (1 - \cos \lambda)]}{\cos \beta_1 \sin \lambda}$$

$$\text{where } \beta_2 - \beta_1 = B_2 - B_1 + \left\{ n(\sin 2B_1 - \sin 2B_2) - \frac{n^2}{2}(\sin 4B_1 - \sin 4B_2) + \frac{n^3}{3}(\sin 6B_1 - \sin 6B_2) \right\}$$

$$\text{and } n = \frac{1 - \sqrt{1 - e^2}}{1 + \sqrt{1 - e^2}}$$

( $B_1$  and  $B_2$  as previously defined are the geocentric latitudes of points 1 and 2, respectively). See the quadrant criterion on page 28.

#### SECTION V.

##### TABULAR AND ELECTRONIC COMPUTER METHOD FOR SOLUTION OF DIRECT GEODETIC PROBLEM, BASED ON EQUATION (1)

The formulas given above for the solution of the direct geodetic problem are intended primarily for electronic computer programming. However, they may also be used for computation by means of desk calculators.

The computation form for this method is as follows:

Given:  $B_1, L_1$  = geographic latitude and longitude, respectively  
of any point 1.

$\alpha_{1-2}, S$  = azimuth clockwise from north, and distance,  
respectively, to any other point 2.

Required:  $B_2, L_2$  and  $\alpha_{2-1}$ . (Latitudes and longitudes considered  
(+) north and east, (-) south and west).

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\rho}_c &= \left[ \tilde{\rho}_s \right] \\ &+ a_1 \left[ -\frac{e'^2}{2} \sin \tilde{\rho}_s \right] \\ &+ m_1 \left[ -\frac{e'^2}{4} \tilde{\rho}_s + \frac{e'^2}{4} \sin \tilde{\rho}_s \cos \tilde{\rho}_s \right] \\ &+ a_1^2 \left[ \frac{5e'^4}{8} \sin \tilde{\rho}_s \cos \tilde{\rho}_s \right] \\ &+ m_1^2 \left[ \frac{11e'^4}{64} \tilde{\rho}_s - \frac{13e'^4}{64} \sin \tilde{\rho}_s \cos \tilde{\rho}_s - \frac{e'^4}{8} \tilde{\rho}_s \cos^2 \tilde{\rho}_s \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{5e'^4}{32} \sin \tilde{\rho}_s \cos^3 \tilde{\rho}_s \right] \\ &+ a_1 m_1 \left[ \frac{3e'^4}{8} \sin \tilde{\rho}_s + \frac{e'^4}{4} \tilde{\rho}_s \cos \tilde{\rho}_s - \frac{5e'^4}{8} \sin \tilde{\rho}_s \cos^2 \tilde{\rho}_s \right] \\ \frac{L-\lambda}{\rho \cos \beta_c} &= \left[ -f \tilde{\rho}_s \right] + a_1 \left[ \frac{3f^2}{2} \sin \tilde{\rho}_s \right] \\ &+ m_1 \left[ \frac{3f^2}{4} \tilde{\rho}_s - \frac{3f^2}{4} \sin \tilde{\rho}_s \cos \tilde{\rho}_s \right] \end{aligned}$$

where:  $a_0, b_0$  = semi-major and semi-minor axes, respectively, of spheroid

$$f = \text{spheroidal flattening} = \left(1 - \frac{b_0}{a_0}\right)$$

$$e'^2 = \text{second eccentricity squared} = (a_0^2 - b_0^2) \div b_0^2$$

$$\rho = \text{number of seconds in one radians} = 206,264.80625$$

$$\phi_s = (S \div b_0) \text{ radians}$$

$$\tan \beta = (\tan B) (1-f) \text{ when } |B| \leq 45^\circ \text{ or } \cot \beta = \frac{(\cot B)}{(1-f)} \text{ when } |B| > 45^\circ.$$

$$\cos \beta_0 = \cos \beta_1 \sin \alpha_{1-2}$$

$$g = \cos \beta_1 \cos \alpha_{1-2}$$

$$a_1 = \left(1 + \frac{e'^2}{2} \sin^2 \beta_1\right) (\sin^2 \beta_1 \cos \phi_s + g \sin \beta_1 \sin \phi_s)$$

$$m_1 = \left(1 + \frac{e'^2}{2} \sin^2 \beta_1\right) (1 - \cos^2 \beta_0)$$

$$\sin \beta_2 = \sin \beta_1 \cos \phi_0 + g \sin \phi_0$$

$$\cos \beta_2 = + \sqrt{(\cos \beta_0)^2 + (\sin \beta_1 \sin \phi_0 - g \cos \phi_0)^2}$$

[The quantity under the radical and its root must be computed by eleven-  
in-point notation to obtain  $\cos \beta_2$  to full accuracy at large absolute  
latitude.  $\tan \beta_2 = \frac{\sin \beta_2}{\cos \beta_2}$  or  $\cot \beta_2 = \frac{\cos \beta_2}{\sin \beta_2}$ , whichever has the

smaller absolute value.

Obtain  $\tan$  (or  $\cot$ ) of  $B_2$  from its relation to  $\tan$  (or  $\cot$ ) of  $\beta_2$ .

Obtain  $B_2$ , which ranges from  $-90^\circ$  through  $+90^\circ$  and takes the sign of its  $\tan$  (or  $\cot$ ).

$$\cot \alpha_{2-1} = (\cos \alpha_{1-2} \cos \phi_0 - \tan \beta_1 \sin \phi_0) \div \sin \alpha_{1-2}$$

When  $|\cot \alpha_{2-1}| > 1$ , divide result into 1 to obtain  $\tan \alpha_{2-1}$  instead.

(omit these last two lines for meridional arcs)

	Quadrant of $\alpha_{2-1}$
If $(0^\circ \leq \alpha_{1-2} \leq 180^\circ)$	.... and cot (or tan) of $\alpha_{2-1}$ is (+) or (-), $\alpha_{2-1}$ is in Quad. III or IV, respectively.
If $(180^\circ < \alpha_{1-2} < 360^\circ)$	.... and cot (or tan) of $\alpha_{2-1}$ is (+) or (-), $\alpha_{2-1}$ is in Quad. I or II, respectively.

For meridional arcs, enter the above table with the sign of the numerator of  $\cot \alpha_{2-1}$ , and reference angle  $0^\circ$ .

$$\cot \lambda = (\cot \phi_0 \cos \beta_1 - \cos \alpha_{1-2} \sin \beta_1) \div \sin \alpha_{1-2}$$

When  $|\cot \lambda| > 1$ , divide result into 1 to obtain  $\tan \lambda$  instead.

(omit these last two lines for meridional arcs)

	Quadrant and Sign of $\lambda$	
	When $\phi_0$ is in Quad. I or II ( $180^\circ$ included)	When $\phi_0$ is in Quad. III or IV ( $180^\circ$ excluded)
and $(0^\circ \leq \alpha_{1-2} \leq 180^\circ)$	... then if cot (or tan) of $\lambda$ is (+) or (-) $\lambda$ is in Quad. I or II, respectively.	... then if cot (or tan) of $\lambda$ is (+) or (-) $\lambda$ is in Quad. III or IV, respectively.
and $(180^\circ < \alpha_{1-2} < 360^\circ)$	... then if cot (or tan) of $\lambda$ is (+) or (-) the assoc. angle is in Quad. III or IV, respectively, and $\lambda$ is obtained by subtracting $360^\circ$	... then if cot (or tan) of $\lambda$ is (+) or (-) the assoc. angle is in Quad. I or II, respectively, and $\lambda$ is obtained by subtracting $360^\circ$

[ For meridional arcs, enter the above table with the sign  
of the numerator of  $\cot \lambda$ , and reference angle  $0^\circ$ . ]

$$L_2 = L_1 + L$$

[ If  $|L_2| > 180^\circ$ , modify  $L_2$  by adding or subtracting  $360^\circ$   
according to whether it is initially negative or positive. ]

## 12. Extension of Series of the Direct Geodetic Problem For Greater Accuracy

The  $e^{16}$  term of the preceding  $\phi_0$  series has been derived and numerically maximized in order to determine the error in the  $\phi_0$  series which would result from an omission of the  $e^{16}$  term. This maximum value is given in Appendix I, Part A.

Likewise, the  $\left(\frac{L - \lambda}{\rho \cos \phi_0}\right)$  series has been extended to include the  $f^3$  term. A maximum numerical value is given in Appendix I, Part A.

The errors which the omission of the  $e^{16}$  term of  $\phi_0$  and the  $f^3$  term of  $\left(\frac{L - \lambda}{\rho \cos \phi_0}\right)$  could finally produce in  $B_2$ ,  $L_2$  and  $\alpha_{2-1}$  are also shown in Appendix I, Part A.

The  $e^{16}$  term of the  $\phi_0$  series is as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} [e^{16} \text{ term of } \phi_0] = & a_1^3 \left[ -\frac{29}{24} e^{16} \sin \phi_s \cos^2 \phi_s + \frac{5}{24} e^{16} \sin^3 \phi_s \right] \\ & + a_1^2 m_1 \left[ \frac{5}{32} e^{16} \phi_s^2 - \frac{5}{8} e^{16} \phi_s \cos^2 \phi_s - \frac{43}{32} e^{16} \sin \phi_s \cos \phi_s \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \frac{29}{16} e^{16} \sin \phi_s \cos^3 \phi_s \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& + a_1 m_1^2 \left[ -\frac{39}{64} e^{i6} \bar{\varphi}_s \cos \bar{\varphi}_s + \frac{5}{8} e^{i6} \bar{\varphi}_s \cos^3 \bar{\varphi}_s + \frac{e^{i6}}{32} \bar{\varphi}_s^2 \sin \bar{\varphi}_s \right. \\
& \quad - \frac{e^{i6}}{32} \bar{\varphi}_s^2 \cos^2 \bar{\varphi}_s \csc \bar{\varphi}_s + \frac{79}{64} e^{i6} \sin \bar{\varphi}_s \cos^2 \bar{\varphi}_s \\
& \quad \left. - \frac{29}{32} e^{i6} \sin \bar{\varphi}_s \cos^4 \bar{\varphi}_s - \frac{5}{16} e^{i6} \sin \bar{\varphi}_s \right] \\
& + m_1^3 \left[ -\frac{35}{256} e^{i6} \bar{\varphi}_s + \frac{35}{128} e^{i6} \bar{\varphi}_s \cos^2 \bar{\varphi}_s - \frac{5}{32} e^{i6} \bar{\varphi}_s \cos^4 \bar{\varphi}_s \right. \\
& \quad - \frac{1}{32} e^{i6} \bar{\varphi}_s^2 \sin \bar{\varphi}_s \cos \bar{\varphi}_s + \frac{45}{256} e^{i6} \sin \bar{\varphi}_s \cos \bar{\varphi}_s \\
& \quad \left. - \frac{59}{192} e^{i6} \sin \bar{\varphi}_s \cos^3 \bar{\varphi}_s + \frac{29}{192} e^{i6} \sin \bar{\varphi}_s \cos^5 \bar{\varphi}_s \right] \\
& + a_1^2 t_1 \left[ \frac{3}{16} e^{i6} \sin \bar{\varphi}_s \cos \bar{\varphi}_s \right] \\
& + a_1 t_1^2 \left[ -\frac{e^{i6}}{8} \sin \bar{\varphi}_s \right] \\
& + a_1 m_1 t_1 \left[ \frac{3}{16} e^{i6} \bar{\varphi}_s \cos \bar{\varphi}_s - \frac{3}{16} e^{i6} \sin \bar{\varphi}_s \cos^2 \bar{\varphi}_s \right] \\
& + m_1 t_1^2 \left[ -\frac{e^{i6}}{16} \bar{\varphi}_s + \frac{e^{i6}}{16} \sin \bar{\varphi}_s \cos \bar{\varphi}_s \right] \\
& + m_1^2 t_1 \left[ \frac{e^{i6}}{128} \bar{\varphi}_s - \frac{3}{32} e^{i6} \bar{\varphi}_s \cos^2 \bar{\varphi}_s + \frac{e^{i6}}{32} \bar{\varphi}_s^2 \cos \bar{\varphi}_s \csc \bar{\varphi}_s \right. \\
& \quad \left. + \frac{1}{128} e^{i6} \sin \bar{\varphi}_s \cos \bar{\varphi}_s + \frac{3}{64} e^{i6} \sin \bar{\varphi}_s \cos^3 \bar{\varphi}_s \right]
\end{aligned}$$

In the above equation  $t_1 = \sin^2 \beta_1$  and all other quantities are the same as defined on page 33.

As  $\phi_s$  approaches  $180^\circ$ , each of the two terms containing  $\csc \phi_s$  in the series above approaches infinity. However, they may be combined into a single finite term as follows:

$$a_1 m_1^2 \left( \frac{e^{i6}}{32} \phi_s^2 \cos^2 \phi_s \csc \phi_s \right) + m_1^2 t_1 \left( \frac{e^{i6}}{32} \phi_s^2 \cos \phi_s \csc \phi_s \right) = m_1^2 \gamma \left( \frac{e^{i6}}{32} \phi_s^2 \cos \phi_s \right), \text{ where } \gamma = (\sin^2 \beta_1 \sin \phi_s - g \sin \beta_1 \cos \phi_s).$$

The series for  $\left( \frac{L - \lambda}{\rho \cos \beta_0} \right)$  extended through the  $f^3$  term is as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \left( \frac{L - \lambda}{\rho \cos \beta_0} \right) = & \left[ -f \phi_s \right] + a_1 \left[ \left( \frac{3}{2} f^2 + 2f^3 \right) \sin \phi_s \right] \\ & + m_1 \left[ \left( \frac{3}{4} f^2 + f^3 \right) \phi_s + \left( -\frac{3}{4} f^2 - f^3 \right) \sin \phi_s \cos \phi_s \right] \\ & + a_1^2 \left[ -4f^3 \sin \phi_s \cos \phi_s \right] \\ & + a_1 m_1 \left[ -\frac{5}{2} f^3 \sin \phi_s - \frac{3}{2} f^3 \phi_s \cos \phi_s \right. \\ & \quad \left. + 4f^3 \sin \phi_s \cos^2 \phi_s \right] \\ & + m_1^2 \left[ -\frac{9}{8} f^3 \phi_s + \frac{3}{4} f^3 \phi_s \cos^2 \phi_s \right. \\ & \quad \left. - f^3 \sin \phi_s \cos^3 \phi_s + \frac{11}{8} f^3 \sin \phi_s \cos \phi_s \right] \end{aligned}$$

# APPENDIX I.

## PART A

SUMMARY TABLE OF ERRORS IN DISTANCE & AZIMUTH IN TABULAR AND ALGEBRAIC  
COMPUTER METHOD FOR NON-ITERATIVE SOLUTION OF GEODETIC INVERSE

$\phi$	Error in S (meters)	Error in $\frac{\lambda - 1}{\rho_c}$	Error in $\alpha_{1-2}$	Error in $\alpha_{2-1}$
350°	.9	"003	"006	"003
170°	.5	"002	"001	"001
80°	.2	"001	"001	"0002
0°12'12"	.001	"0003	"005	"005 *

The errors above result from the omission of the  $f^3$  terms from the  $\frac{S}{b_0}$  and  $\frac{\lambda - 1}{\rho_c}$  series.  
Computations were done for high latitudes and are based on the International Spheroid.

\* The magnitude of the error in  $\alpha$  for lines of approximately 15 miles clearly indicates the necessity of the  $f^3$  term in the  $\frac{\lambda - 1}{\rho_c}$  series for accuracy of three decimal places of seconds of arc.

# PART B

SUMMARY TABLE OF ERRORS IN POSITION & AZIMUTH IN TARTIAR AND ELECTRONIC  
COMPUTER SYSTEM FOR NON-ITERATIVE SOLUTION OF DIRECT GEODETIC PROBLEM

$\beta_s$	$\alpha_{1-2}$	Error in $f_c$ series	Error in $\frac{1-\lambda}{\rho \cos \beta}$ series	Error in $f_2$	Error in $L_2$	Error in $\alpha_{2-1}$
350°	5°	"2	"04	"2	"02	"02
350°	45°	"2	"05	"2	"2	"2
350°	90°	"2	"04	"1	"5	"5
170°	5°	"1	"02	"1	"2	"01
170°	90°	"1	"02	"1	"2	"3
80°	5°	"02	"002	"02	"0001	"0004
80°	90°	"02	"002	"02	"001	"004

The errors above result from the omission of the  $e^6$  term from the  $f_c$  series and the  $f_3$  term of  $\frac{1-\lambda}{\rho \cos \beta}$  series. Computations were done for high latitudes and are based on the International spheroid.

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Submitted:

EMANUEL M. SODANO  
Geodesist,  
formerly of Research & Analysis Div.

Thelma A. Robinson  
THELMA A. ROBINSON  
Mathematician,  
Research & Analysis Division

Recommend Approval:

E. L. Mills  
E. L. MILLS  
Chief, Department of Geodesy

Approved:

Robert C. Miller  
ROBERT C. MILLER  
Colonel, Corps of Engineers  
Commanding